a generation."

## HARRIMAN WINS MILLIONS.

UNION AND SOUTHERN PACIFIC DIVIDENDS SEND STOCKS UP.

Wild Day on the Stock Exchange After the Announcement of 10 Per Cent. on U. P. and 5 Per Cent. on Southern -Brokers Say Harriman Alone Won \$10,000,000.

When Wall Street closed its doors for the right on Thursday it did so with no positive knowledge of dividend declarations in Union and Southern Pacific. At Mr. Harriman's offices the statement was made that no dividend declarations would be made public. The best that was looked for was 7 per cent. on Union Pacific and 4 per cent. on Southern Pacific.

A up began to circulate about 5 o'clock on Thursday that these dividends had really been declared, but the Harriman offices were silent on the subject.

It was just fifteen minutes after the opening of the Stock Exchange yesterday morning that the news came over the ticker that a 5 per cent. semi-annual dividend had been declared on Union Pacific, raising that stock from a 6 to a 10 per cent. tasis, and that a 21/2 per cent. dividend had teen declared on Southern Pacific.

Wall Street seemed to hold fast for a minute and then let loose. The stocks of these two companies began to shoot up, and for a time it was a typical bear panic. Union Pacific within five minutes after the announcement had jumped to 1651/4 and Southern Pacific had reached 851/4.

Union Pacific had closed on Thursday at 162%, opening yesterday at 163@1631/2. Southern Pacific closed Thursday at 82 and opened yesterday at 83@831/4. The closing prices yesterday were: Union Pacific, 1781/4, 151/4 points up for the day; Southern Pacific 871/2, 53% points up, the high prices for both coming about the middle of the day's trading, at 179% for Union Pacific and 89 for Southern Pacific.

Trading during the first hour amounted to 702,000 shares, of which Union Pacific contributed 230,900 and Southern Pacific 237,100. About 2 o'clock Union Pacific was selling at 175%, New York Central at 144%, Pennsylvania at 144%, Steel common at

The total sales of stock for the day reached the high figure of 2,476,500 shares, Southern Pacific contributing 504,000 and Union Pacific 643,200 shares of the day's total.

The visitors at the Stock Exchange. most of them patrons of sightseeing automobiles, were treated to an unusual scene. Not in several years has there been such a noise on the floor. The sudden rise in Union Pacific and Southern Pacific resulted in excitement recalling the scenes attending the struggle for the control of Northern Pacific five years ago. The brokers on the floor crowded into a howling, surging mass and little attention was paid to prices in

the execution of orders. The Union Pacific dividend was more than any one had expected, the most liberal allowance having been 3 per cent. and 2 per cent. extra. The trading in Union Pacific was so heavy that the ticker ran away behind, and while it was being quoted at 1671/2 on the tape it was changing hands on

the floor at 171. One thing was generally admitted at t start, and that was that the shorts in Union Pacific were left without hope. That they realized this fact was shown by the heavy covering which went on in both the Harriman stocks. It was estimated by one house that the bears on these stocks dropped it least \$5,000,000. On the other hand the winnings on paper of the manipulators were said to reach into the tens of millions Many brokers-and their opinion found general credence-put the winnings of E. H. Harriman alone at not less than \$10,000,000.

Among the persons said to have profited by the Southern Pacific rise is Sir Ernest Cassel, a part at least of whose operations are financed by King Edward VII. As gossip in Wall Street has it. Sir Ernest bought Southern Pacific heavily when i hung around 65. At yesterday's prices this would show a good return. Wall Street added the information that the British Swereign had been "let in on the ground floor" by E. H. Harriman himself.

The dividend came as a windfall to many small holders. In one broker's office modestly dressed man said he owned a few hundred shares which he had gradually \$21 a share up. Not counting his dividends, his stock shows him an average profit of \$78 a share.

On the other hand one trader said: "We are all feeling like thirty cents, because very few of us got much out of the

advance." There was talk on all sides about the manner in which the declaration of dividends was held back, and a great deal of bitter

comment concerning Mr. Harriman was heard on the Street. The declaration of dividends on the two stocks and the consequent movement of the developments in years. Two questions were were the dividends really decided upon, and when did the Harriman interests accu-

asked in Wall Street by investors: When mulate their enormous holdings? An officer of the Union Pacific-Southern Pacific was asked just when the increases were actually authorized. His only reply was: "That is not a matter of any interest to the public."

It was said in many quarters that the holding back of the declarations of dividends was done purposely in order to facilitate stock market operations by individuals and by a pool, but none of these accusations

could be proved. A Wall Street operator who shared in the Keene pool in Southern Pacific in 1902 saw a handsome profit at 81%, and then saw it all wiped out in the failure of Talbot J. Taylor & Co., on the announcement of the Harriman dividends telegraphed to James R. Keene: "Congratulations to you, the Dreyfus of Southern Pacific."

The following was the official announce ment of the company:

The meetings of the executive committees of the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific were delayed by the absence of Mr. Harri-man in attending the funeral of Mr. Willcox, and were not held until late in the afternoo It was announced this morning that a semiannual dividend of 3 per cent. on the pre-ferred stock, a semi-annual dividend of

THE "ST. LOUIS LIMITED"
Leaving New York at 1:55 P. M., via Pennsylvania.
Rallroad, arrived at St. Leuis on time, 6:30 P. M.,
ied days out of 356.—Adv.

per cent. on the common stock of the Union Pacific and a semi-annual dividend, the first, of 2½ per cent. upon the common stock of the Southern Pacific company had been declared. The dividends of the Union Pacific company are payable October 1 to the stockholders ord at 12 o'clock M., September 15, and the dividend of the Southern Pacific company

is payable October 1 to holders of the dividend Later in the day an official of the Union Pacific issued this statement:

"The wisdom of the conservative policy pursued by Mr. Harriman in Union Pacific and Southern Pacific is abundantly shown by the results achieved. In spite of opposition and the clamor for dividends and greater dividends he has steadfastly adnered to his purpose to build up and improve the physical condition of the proprties and strengthen their position strategically.

"Now with the cost of service greatly reduced by improvements made in roadway and equipment, with over \$12,000,000 set aside as reserve fund for further betterments, with actual gross transportation receipts of the two systems swelled to the normous sum of \$172,000,000 and with net ncome for the year, after providing for all the fixed charges, amounting to over \$29,-000,000 in the case of the Union Pacific without including profits on Northern securities) and over \$21,000,000 in the case of Southern Pacific, Mr. Harriman is able to recommend to his directors the comnencement of dividends upon Southern Pacific common at the rate of 5 per cent and an increase of the rate on Union Pacific to 10 per cent.

"The maintenance of these rates seems easily within the capacity of the properties n view of the splendid physical condition o which they have been brought and the strong strategical position they have attained. After payment of dividends just leclared and the dividends upon the preferred the combined net surplus for the year of the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific is over \$29,000,000, without taking eognizance of over \$4,100,000 charged in

he expense and reserved for betterments. "It is particularly worthy of notice that distinction is apparently made between noome from the Union Pacific's railroad properties and the income from investments and that the latter is sufficient to pay what is evidently intended to be semiannual dividends at the rate of 4 per cent per year from that source, continuing the contribution from the railroad earnings on

he conservative basis of per cent." After the close of business for the day the rumor factory became almost as active

Reports were circulated that so and so had made a mint and that another so and so had dropped an equally large amount N. Monsarrat of the Hocking Valley Railway was said to have been on the right side of the market for a big sum, as were John W. Gates, James R. Keene and Jacob Field, but in no case could any definite statement of profits or losses be learned. Guesswork was the only foundation for the reports. The declaration of a 2 per cent. semi-annual dividend on Union Pacific from ts holding company revenue marks the Pacific has practically separated its holding company capacity from its capacity as a ransportation company. As the latter it is practically limited to 7 per cent. dividend possibilities, but as a holding company it can distribute its profit as it pleases. In 1908 the Union Pacific actually earned nearly 17 per cent. The Southern Pacific could have shown nearly 12 per cent. earned with conservatism, despite the San Fran-

cisco disaster. Union Pacific and the Pacific combined could show for 1906 a eash surplus after dividends of \$25,000,000 In other words, the system has actually provided itself with that amount of surplus cash for investments and improvements without recourse to the capital

GIRL SLEPT IN THE BUSHES.

Savs She Lived for Two Weeks on Crust Thrown Away in Mount Morris Park.

Magda Carstensen, 21 years old, a young German woman, was found asleep in a clump of bushes in Mount Morris Park resterday by Michael J. Kane, one of the seepers in the park. The girl's clothes were unkempt and she said that she had been sleeping there for nearly two weeks. She was turned over to a policema

and arraigned before Magistrate Cornell in he Harlem court. There she said that she came to this country a year ago to meet a German sailor who had promise to marry her. She said she met him and they lived in a furnished room in Hoboken until three weeks ago, and then he left her. She was taken ill, and after remaining in a hospital for a week she came here and wandered around the streets looking for work. She had a little money and was able to eat as long as that lasted. She went at last to Mount Morris Park and

lived there on the crusts of bread that the children and picnickers threw away. Some mornings, when she was almost starved, she said, she would take milk and bread from doorways along Madison avenue. Magistrate Cornell sent her to the Work

TRAIN HITS AUTOMOBILE. Both Occupants Thrown Out and Badly Hurt-One of Them May Die.

HACKENBACK, N. J., Aug. 17 .- A. H. G. Maidment, law partner of Assemblyman Clarence Mabie of this place, was badly injured to-night when his automobile wa struck by a westbound West Shore train at Bogota, a mile from here. In the machine with Mr. Maidment was J. E. Haring, real estate and insurance agent. The two were coming to their homes in this place after transacting some business in Edge-

Mr. Maidment was driving the machine down the long hill at Bogota and evidently thought he could get over the crossing ahead of the train. The machine was struck by the pilot of the engine and hurled some distance to the side of the tracks. Both Maidment and Haring were thrown out and badly cut and bruised about the body and head. Mr. Maidment was picked up unconscious and hurried to the Hacken sack hospital. His condition is critical. Mr. Haring was taken to his home. The auto was totally wrecked.

Lightning Destroys Wireless Station.

BEAUFORT, N. C., Aug. 17 .- Lightning struck the naval wireless telegraph station near Beaufort to-day. The lightning hit the high mast and the instruments and telej hine connections were burned out The naval clock was broken.

The naval clock was broken.

'I hose in charge have not been able to determine whether the storage batteries and the generators have been entirely de-

stroyed. No one was injured, although Electrician

## SHOT TRYING TO ROB WHITNEY

BURGLARS RAID COUNTRY HOME AT ROSLYN, L. I.

Special Policeman Fires at Them and Is Sure That He Hit One-Three in the Attacking Party-None of the Family at Home and Only Three Servants.

Three burglars made a bold attempt to rob the country home of Harry Payne and Payne Whitney, in the Wheatley Hills, near Roslyn, L. I., at 11:30 o'clock last

Henry Piper, a watchman employed of the place, heard the men on the porch. He slipped out to the rear of the house, where e came upon two of the men.

Piper says he fired several shots at the men, and is sure that he hit one of them. Piper says that the third man ran around from the front of the house, and the two dragged the injured man away with them. There were none of the family at the nouse at the time, and only three servants were on the premises. Piper notified the police of Hempstead, who sent word to the police in Jamaica and Long Island to be on he lookout for the trio.

Piper said last night, that he discovered omebody working on the front door of the house as he was making his first round. He thought it might be one of the servants and went around to the basement door.

Finding nobody there he returned to the front door and opened the panel in the door, through which he saw three men, who were apparently trying to force an entrance. Piper rushed to the basement door again

and got out, thinking to surprise the men at their work, but before he reached then they heard him coming and made for the Piper drew his revolver and fired several shots at the retreating men. When the

other two had helped away the wounded

man he returned to the house and got some of the other servants to search the bushes, out no trace of the robbers was found. The Whitney estate is one of the finest n the country. It was erected by the late William C. Whitney, who not only built a fine home there, but also erected stables

STILL AFTER ICE MEN.

for his race and other horses.

More Subpœnas for the Grand Jury Investigation.

Preparations were made vesterday by the Grand Jury for continuing the ice investigation. Assistant District Attorney Perkins had a talk with Judge Rosalsky of General Sessions, and after that several subpoenas

were issued. Assistant District Attorney Smyth has written to George H. Webb, Commissioner of Industrial Statistics of Rhode Island, askng him to come to this city and testify before the Grand Jury. Mr. Webb made an investigation of the ice situation and he reported that the American Ice Company ad failed to harvest the ice crop to mee the supply.

UNION DENOUNCES STRIKERS.

Yardmen's Grievance Committee Says New

Haven Road's Position Was Right. NEW HAVEN, Aug. 17.-The general rievance committee, representing 4,000 witchmen and yardmen on the New Haven railway system, issued the following statement to-day condemning the recent strike n the freight yards in this cit

"We must, in justice to the officers of the New Haven railroad and to ourselves, denounce the conduct of the New Haven yardmen. If they had just cause for complaint and had taken it up in the proper nanner there is no doubt it would have

been satisfactorily adjusted. "Inasmuch as labor organizations have as their only asset integrity, we must call on our members upon the system to see to it that the contract which exists between the New Haven road and trainmen and yardmen is properly lived up to by the

"This we pledge ourselves to do. We also wish to commend the action of such New Haven yardmen as remained at work during the strike."

PROTECTORY BOY BADLY HURT. Fell Two Stories to the Yard in Trying to Escape-Dectors Think He'll Die.

Bernard Bentley, 15 years old, an inmate of the Catholic Protectory in Westchester, was injured probably fatally in attempting to escape from the institution shortly

before midnight last night. Young Bently managed to get out of his bed unnoticed. He got some of his clothes on and opening a window of the dormitory, which is on the third floor, he crawled along a narrow ledge in an effort to get to a drain

pipe, down which he purposed to slide. William Cullen, a guard, in making his rounds discovered that the boy was not in his bed and he soon found an open window. After sounding the alarm, which awakened everybody in the place, Cullen made for the open window and looked out as Bentley was reaching to get hold of the pipe.

Cullen called out to the boy to come back.

His cries startled young Bentley, who lost his balance and fell to the asphalt raving below. An ambulance was su mmoned and the boy was hurried unconscious to the Fordham Hospital.

There it was found that he had suffered broken right leg and right arm, four severe scalp wounds, a dislocated shoulder and internal injuries. The doctors at the hospital early this morning said they didn't think that he would recover. The accident caused great excitement

among the other inmates of the protectory. It was with great difficulty that the priests and attendants succeeded in restoring quiet. Bentley was committed to the institution by a city magistrate. His people live on West Sixty-seventh street. Bentley has made several attempts to escape from the place since he was sent there several weeks

WOMAN LEADS EAGLES PARADE.

Helen Brooks of New York Wins Diamond Studded Bracelet. MILWAUKEE, Wis., Aug. 17 .- One woman Miss Helen Brooks, New York, headed the

parade of Eagles. She marched on a wager and won a gold bracelet studded with diamonds, put up by the New Yorkers. Miss Brooks wore a gown of green and white flowered silk and carried a parasol to match.

Burnett's Vanilla Extract Is sold by all the best grocers everywhere, try it.

STRIKERS STONE ROOT'S TRAIN.

Attack Maile When Secretary Was Returning From Argentine Ranch.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. BUENOS ATRES, Aug. 17.-While Mr. Root and a party were returning yesterday from the Chascomus ranch, strikers hissed and stoned the train, breaking three windows in Mr Root's car and wounding the Minister of Agriculture in the neck. Several others of the party were slightly injured. The police are making an investigation.

HIT BY EXPRESS TRAIN; LIVES.

Subway Track Walker Flung to Local Track

and Only Bruised. John Kasinianki, a track walker in the ubway, had an extraordinary escape from death last night when he was struck by a southbound express train going at full speed, near the Spring street station. The notorman, Robert Mason, threw on his emergency brake and the train crew ran back, expecting to find nothing left but the mangled remains of the track walker. Instead they found him standing by the track, somewhat dazed and rubbing varime brutees on his body.

Kasinianki had stapped from the local track directly in front of the express. Before Mason could stop his train he was struck and hurled back upon the local track, his body passing between the pillars The injured man was placed on the train and brought to the Brooklyn Bridge, where Dr. Leslie of the Hudson street hospital at tended him. He had contusions of both sides, the back and left shoulder, but was able to go to his home, 215 EastThird street.

MORE OIL TRUST INDICTMENTS Said to Be Ready and Awaiting the Coming

of a Federal Judge. CHICAGO, Aug. 17 .- The special Federa Grand Jury investigating rebates alleged to have been received by the Standard Oil Company from various railroads to-day examined nine witnesses before its ad-

journment till Monday. W. J. Haney, yardmaster of the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad at Haney, a shipping point nineteen miles out of Chicago, was the principal witness. Haney was in the Grand Jury room for more than an hour and it is said he gave much valuable testimony concerning rebates given to the

Standard Oil Company after March, 1903. It is said that several indictments against the Standard Oil Company, the Chicago and Eastern Illinois, the Lake Shore and the Chicago Transfer Company have been decided upon but cannot be returned owng to the absence of all the Federal Judges from the city.

It is said that Judge Bethea will return Tuesday, when the indictments will be re-

GUESTS OF THE PRESIDENT.

Moody Talked With Him About Candidates for Important Judgeshi

OTSTER BAY, Aug. 17.—President Roose relt entertained at luncheon to-day Gen. John M. Wilson, who was chairman of th naugural committee when the President was inducted into office; Col. Hobbes, an English army officer, who is studying army dministration in this country, and Cleveand H. Dodge of New York.

Attorney-General Moody, who was the President's guest over night, left for New York on the early morning train. He said that he had talked over with President Roosevelt the candidates for several portant Judgeships. He refused to say what men had been selected.

Representative and Mrs. Longworth, who have been guests at Sagamore Hill since their return from Europe last Saturday, eft Oyster Bay to-day. They will go first to Washington for a brief stay and later to he Longworth home in Cincinnati. Before leaving Mr. Longworth said that

ne was confident of being reelected this fall. M'CARREN READY FOR SUIT.

Files Answer to Breach of Promise Action Begun by Mrs. Dixon.

suit brought against Senator Parrick H. McCarren by Mrs. Mary A. Dixon to recover \$200,000 damages for breach of promise of marriage the Senator through his counsel filed yesterday an answer to the summons and com-laint. The Senator admits that the plaintiff was acquainted with him at the times mentioned in her complaint and that in the summer of 1905 she visited relatives in Canada. He denies that she was a widow and unmarried at the times mentioned in the complaint and he also denies every other allegation in the complaint. He asks that the plaintiff's

complaint be dismissed. Lawyer Samuel S. Whitehouse, filed the answer, said that Senator McCarren desires no delay in the matter and the sooner the case is reached for trial the better it would suit him.

"His proofs are in abundance," said Mr.

Kermit Roosevelt in Dakota for a Hunting

Trip. DEADWOOD, S. D., Aug. 17.-Kermit Roosevelt, accompanied by his chum, John Heard of Washington, arrived in Deadwood yesterday to visit United States Marshal Seth Bullock. A party consisting of Kermit Roosevelt, John Heard, Stanley

leave with a camping outfit for Butte county travelling by easy stages. The boys expect to remain in the Black Hills for two weeks Miners Beat Republicans in Alaska. SEATTLE, Aug. 17 .- Incomplete returns rom the Alaska election of Tuesday show

Bullock and Paul Martin, son of Congress

man Martin, and Marshal Bullock, will

that Cale and Waskey, miners' candidates for delegates to Congress, have been elected The vote for each exceeds 4,000. The Republican candidates, Mellen and Swineford, just got over the 1,000 mark. The total vote polled will exceed 7,000.

Harian on Interstate Commission. OYSTER BAY, Aug. 17 .- President Roose velt to-day completed the membership of the Interstate Commerce Commission by the appointment of James S. Harlan of Chicago. Harlan is the son of Justice Harlan of the United States Supreme Court. He was recently Attorney-General of Porto Rico.

of the commission under the new law. Latest Marine Intelligence. Sa Etruria eighty miles east of Nantucket light ship 9:20 p. m., westbound.

His appointment completes the membership

After all, Usher's the Scotch that made the highball famous -Ade.

## CHILE SHAKEN, MANY ARE DEAD

## Valparaiso Partly Wrecked by Earthquake and Is Now Burning.

OTHER CITIES CUT OFF.

Many Have Undoubtedly Suffered Severely as in Previous Andean Disturbances.

Panie in Stricken Valparaise, Where Succession of Mild Shocks Fellows These That Caused' Destruction -- Best Residence Parts of the City Suffer Most -Gas and Electric Light Systems Destreyed-Business Entirely Suspended -Sheeks Plainly Recorded on Seismographs in Washington and in Isle of Wight-Continued Five Hours Thursday Night, When Most Damage Was Done.

From THE SUN Correspondent at Lima. LIMA, Peru, Aug. 17.-About 8 o'clock on Thursday evening there was a tremendous earthquake at Valparaiso, Chile. As at San Francisco, the shock was followed by

the starting of many fires. The flames, extending from the Plaza Orden toward the north, have not yet been extinguished. Many houses have been destroyed and nearly all of those in the city are more or less damaged, either by the earthquake or the fire.

banks are closed. The gas supply is unavailable and the electric lighting system is completely

Business is at a complete standstill. The

knocked out. The greatest panic prevails among the inhabitants. Many families are fleeing from the city.

The weather is fair and the sea is calm. Communication with Santiago de Chile is interrupted and it is impossible to learn

what has occurred there. Many persons were killed and injured in Valparaiso. The shocks continue, but are milder.

The shipping in the port was not injured. The streets which suffered most were Calles Blanco, Condell and Esmeralda and those in the Delicias district, where the best residences are. LOSS OF LIFE LARGE, SAYS BUENOS AYRES

BUENOS AYRES, Aug. 17 .- According to the information received here, a large number of buildings have been destroyed in Valparaiso and the loss of life is said to have been large.

The disturbance was general throughout Chile, and was felt at some points in the Argentine Republic. News of the disaster is extremely meagre

owing to the fact that telegraphic communication is cut off, the shocks having thrown down the telegraph lines. From the few details obtainable here it

appears that there were five shocks, the disturbance rassing south along the Pacific coast and crossing the Andes. The shocks were severe according to the registration of the seismograph instruments here and at

Santa Rosa and Andes City. The property loss is enormous. Many houses were thrown down, including Government House.

During the night the volcano of Tupungato, on the Chile-Argentine border, was heard roaring, and the people fled to the churches to pray for safety. At San Juan, in the Andes, high winds

accompanied the shocks. The shock at

Andes City was very severe. The shocks seriously affected the towns of Rosario, Aranas, Rioja, San Luis and Tucuman.

MORE THAN A HUNDRED DEAD. HAMBURG, Aug. 17 .- An exporting firm here has received a cable message stating that numerous districts in Chile have been partly or totally destroyed by an earthquake, especially Valparaiso, which has been demolished. Fires are burning everywhere there. Many ships with their car-

goes were lost. More than a hundred persons lost their lives and many hundreds were injured. The misery is indescribable.

HOW NEW YORK GOT THE NEWS.

New York received its first intimation of earthquake shocks in South America on Thursday night, when the local office of the Western Union learned that the wires of the Mexican Cable Company, which operates down the western coast of South America through the Central and South American Telegraph Company, were down and that communication with Valparaise and interior Chilean points had been cut! Through the night nothing was received from any point south of Callao, Peru, and that city knew nothing of the cause of the cable interruption in the south.

Yesterday morning a despatch from Buenos Avres via the Lisbon cable said that though no shock had been felt on the east coast of South America all the lines across the Andes were down and it was rumored that Valparaiso and Santiago. the chief cities of Chile, had been visited by severe tremore. Before noon the office of the Central and South American Telegraph Company began to receive direct messages from their operator stationed in

Fast trains to Detroit. Chicago and St. Louis by West Shore Railroad, Ask a West Shore tiskes agent for particular.

the cable but outside of the city of Valparaiso. These messages were sent by representatives of New York commercial houses in the stricken city.

MANY KILLED, GRACE & CO. HEAR. W. R. Grace & Co., 1 Hanover Square, were the recipients of one of these messages. It read: "Heavy earthquake shocks visited city

last night, destroying many blocks. Several fires resulted. Many are killed. Wires to Valparaiso are open." Later Grace & Co. announced that they

had received a second despatch saying that their offices in Valparaiso were safe. At the office of the American Trading

Company, 25 Broad street, Seth R. Abrams, manager of the west coast division of the South American trade, said that his firm had been advised through the Central and South American Telegraph Company of the fact that a severe earthquake had wrought destruction in Valparaise and that parts of the city were in flames. The office expected to get direct word some time within the next twenty-four hours, he added.

PARTS OF THE CITY ABLAZE.

At the offices of the Central and South American Telegraph Company, 66 Broadway, Manager Robertson said that he was not in a position to give out the reports that his company had received from their operators at Valparaiso and other points along the Chilean coast.

"I can tell you that there has been a fearful earthquake," he said, "and parts of the city are on fire. What reports we have received up to date are in the form of messages to private individuals in this city and we are not permitted to give these to the public. Our operators there are so busy and the confusion is so great that we cannot expect them to make a full report upon conditions there for some time to come.

"Last night our wires were broken and we heard that there had been a succession of earthquake shocks. Communication was restored by our operators in Chile this morning and now our wire is working perfectly. There should be a full report of the disaster ever the wires before tomorrow morning. Beyond Valparaiso, however, and through all the inland districts there is not a wire up. No word has yet been received from Santiago, La Serena, Concepcion or Iquique. We cannot tell what the extent of the earthquake is nor at what time we will be able to restore communication with the interior."

Later the company received this message from its representative at Valparaiso: "People demoralized; all business houses closed: no prospect of an early restoration

of lines to Santiago or Buenos Ayres." The company's office, which is always closed at night, made no exception last night. Its night business came through the Western Union's Wall street office as usual. Manager Keene of the Western Union office said early in the evening that nothing in the way of details of the earthquake had come through to any one. Many private messages were received bearing the single word, "Safe," but nothing that would give

aster. "The situation is somewhat different from that at the time of the San Francisco earthquake," said Manager Keene. "Then the officials of the company were continually getting word from the operators at San Francisco, giving details of the disaster. All our messages from Valparaiso and cities north come via Galveston and whatever wire chat comes up about the earthquake stops there, because our wires are already overloaded with business that has to get through. We are accepting business for Valparaiso subject to delay, but are taking nothing for Buenos Ayres and other points south of Valparaiso. Our communication with Buenos Ayres and points south is by the transandean telegraph lines, which were broken down by the earthquake. It is possible, however, to hear from Buenos Ayres via Europe

over the Atlantic cables." The Commercial Cable Company was accepting business for Valparaiso last night and receiving a few private messages from the seat of the disturbance, but heard

nothing of the extent of the earthquake. CONSULS WITHOUT NEWS.

Consul-General Adolfo Ortuzar for Chile, whose offices are at 48 Exchange place, was one of the most worried men in the city yesterday. He was without the least scrap of news from Valparaiso and the legation of his country in Washington had been unable to furnish him any.

"As soon as I read the report of the earthquake in the papers," said the Consul-General yesterday afternoon, "I sent a wire to our Minister in Washington, asking what news he had from Valparaiso. The legation staff replied that they had none. I certainly am at my wits' end to know where to get advices from my country. I must have some word soon. It is impossible to

stay in this suspense." The Consul-General has a score of close friends both in Valparaiso and Santiago,

for whose safety he is anxious. Eduardo Higginson, Consul-General for Peru, whose office is at 25 Broad street, declared yesterday that he had no feare that the earthquake had extended as far north as Peru. He believed from the meagre reports that he had seen in the papers that the earthquake disturbance had been confined to the Chilean coast or that at least that was the most severe zone of the convulsion.

At the office of the Consul for Ecuador; 11 Broadway, it was stated that no reports of disturbances so far north as that country had been received from Washington.

Patrick Egan, who was American Minister to Chile during the Baltimore incident in 1801; said to-day that he hoped soon to get word from his two sons who are ongaged in business in the city of Santiago

and about whose experience in the earthquake he is considerably alarmed.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

"From the little that I can hear," said Mr. Egan, "this last earthquake seems to have been the most serious that has afflicted Chile for the last thirty years. Valparaiso is a beautiful city and the news of its possible destruction is a great grief to me. It is an earthquake country and the people have become accustomed to mild tremore, but I believe this last one must have been the worst in the course of

TOWN AFIRE, LONDON HEARS. No Loss of English Employees in Valpa-

raise Reported. Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.
LONDON, Aug. 17.—James and Alexander Brown this evening received a cable despatch from their Valparaiso offices stating that a severe earthquake had occurred there. It was added that commerce was paralyzed, the town was on fire, but the staff were safe.

Another leading firm received a message just before 4 o'clook saying that their offices were all right, and that the principal employees, who were mentioned by name, were not injured.

The despatches contained no details as to the extent of the damage. The firms believe that the telegraph operators at the hill station became frightened and abandoned their instruments.

Mr. Lumsden, a South American mer-chant in Cornhill, has received a despatch from Valparaiso telling him that all his employees are safe. His store sustained slight damage.

CHILEAN CHARGE HOPEFUL. Thinks Valparaise Buildings Would Withstand Severe Shock.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17 -State Department officials are without any advices from the American representatives in Chile concerning the earthquake which is reported to have caused havor on the west coast of South America. Neither John Hicks, the American Minister at Santiago, nor any of the twelve American consular representatives in Chile has been in communication with the Department. This Government is represented at

one of the worst centres of the shock, by Charles S. Winans of Michigan, and the American Consul at Valparaiso is Alfred A. Winslow of Indiana. Frank D. Aller of New Jersey is the American consular representative at Antofagasta. Mr. Hicks, the Minister to Chile, is a Wisconsin man. No official confirmation of the earthquakes has reached the Chilean Delegation

in this city. Great anxiety was manifested

Iquique, Chile, which is reported to be

to-day by Senor Vega, the Charge d'Af-"You know earthquakes are not at all ncommon in Valparaise and at other points along the coast," said Senor Vega. In fact, Valparaiso, our greatest port, is frequently visited by seismic disturbances and has suffered from earth shocks, tidal waves and hurricanes. Hurricanes sweeping down the coast and into the harbor

are as common as the earth shocks. Senor Vega stated that a calamity of such proportions as overtook San Francisco would be impossible in the Chilean metropolis from the fact that the buildings are all low, few more than three or four stories high, and are solidly constructed. They would not yield to an ordinary shock and it is doubtful if a shock equal to that which ruined San Francisco would do great

PROF. MILNE'S VIEW OF QUAKE.

English Expert Thinks Damage Must Be

Great North of Valparaise. Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. LONDON, Aug. 17.-A telegram from Prof. Milne, the well known seismologist, from his home. Shide Hill House, Newport, Isle of Wight, says:

"The seismograph records an earthquake of long duration, lasting more than five hours. It commenced at 12:24 A. M., Isle of Wight time, but at Valparaiso it commenced at 7:15 P. M , August 16. Therefore the loss of life was probably minimized." Prof. Milne also makes the following

statement: "The first notice I got of the earthquake was at 8:50 o'clock this morning, when I looked at my instrument and saw a very large earthquake recorded. Howard Burgess, who was working with me, developed the films, and we saw that he first record had been confirmed. We then saw, from the interval of time between the preliminary tremors, which came through the earth, and the large waves. which go round the world, that it had taken place 6,000 miles away, and was marked on the globe as the strip down the western coast of South America.

t has also occurred along the coast considerably to the north of that city. This district, in the history of seismology, is a classical spot. The late Charles Darwin wrote much about it. "In 1835 a thousand or more miles of the coast line had been permanently elevated a considerable number of feet. In 1868 Iquique was destroyed, chiefly by large sea waves which, in addition to damaging property on shore, lifted the American warship Watres about half a

mile inland. In 1877 the inundation was

repeated and the Watres was carried at

"Telegrams tell us there has been a great

disturbance at Valparaiso, but probably

least two miles further inland. Whether on this occasion there has been a seaquake s well as an earthquake we do not know. "I am particularly interested in occurrences of this sort on the South American coast because it was the disturbances in that attracted my attention to the fact that any large earthquake occurring in any one part of the globe could be re-corded in any other portion of the world. At that time Prof. Struve, at Pulkova; Russia; observed that the bubbles in his astronomical spirit levels were moving to and fro. He attributed that to move-

ments of the ground caused by some dis-"I then observed in Japan; 9,000 miles from the South American coast; a tidelike rising and falling of the sea. These water waves had taken twenty-four hours to travel from the southeastern portion of the Pacific up to the western portion. When they arrived they were from six to twelve feet high and a hundred miles long. This observation enabled me to explain the curious movements of a variety of instruments, portions of which were so suspended

that they were sensitive to small changes of For the last ten years the southwest coast of South America has been very quiescent. Very much greater activity has been shown on the western side of